GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1036
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001
SMUGGLING CASE INVOLVING UZBEK NATIONAL
RAMCHANDRA BAINDA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has concluded the Investigation into the smuggling case of Ms. Olga Kozireva and collusion by custom officials;

(b) if so, the extent of smuggling and collusion by custom officials detected by the DRI;

(c) whether the DRI investigation has revealed any smuggling of arms, narcotics, etc., as earlier reported in the media;

(d) if so, whether the Government have accepted the DRI report; and

(e) if so, the action has been initiated on the basis of the said report so far?

Answer

(SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) MINISTER OF STATE(REVENUE)IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Investigations conducted by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) revealed that Silk Textile collectively valued at Rs. 3,36,91,056/- (International value) were smuggled into India by Ms. Olga Kozireva and her associate on 25 occasions. Duty evasion to the extent of Rs. 2,06,66,729/- was detected in this case. Investigations further indicated the involvement of 22 Customs officials on different occasions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) & (e): On the basis of the investigation report of DRI, a show cause notice in the case was issued by Commissioner of Customs, Delhi on 23/24.8.2001. In the show cause notice, 45 persons including 22 Customs officials have been made noticee. In respect of the Silk seizure from Ms. Olga Kozireva, on 28.8.2000, a complaint under Customs Act has been filed on 15.9.2001 against Ms. Olga Kozireva and 8 other persons including one customs officer, in the competent court. Further, in connection with the offences committed by Ms. Olga Kozireva prior to 28.2.2000, she was arrested by Customs under the Customs Act on 19.9.2001, and a complaint against 43 persons including 22 customs officials has also been filed on 16.11.2001 in the competent court in respect of cases involving offences committed prior to 28.8.2000.